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International Court of Justice

H3555 - 0002

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF COUNSEL FOR WAR CRIMES

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Date: 2 August 1948

I certify that Document Number TC-93 was introduced into evidence as Exhibit Number GB-34 in the Trial by the International Tribunal of Hermann GOERING, et al., which commenced on 20 November 1945, and that the attached photostat is a true and correct copy of the original.

Fred Niebergall

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Chief, Document Control Branch

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the annexed document TC-93 No. GB-34 is a photostat of an original document submitted in evidence by the British Prosecution under this number. The original document has been withdrawn in accordance with Rule 10 of the International Military Tribunal, and to the best of my knowledge and belief is to be held at the OCCWC Evidence Library, Palace of Justice, Nuremberg

Paul Josten

PAUL A. JOSTEN

General Secretary
International Military Tribunal

Nuremberg, 28 July 1948

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
NUERNBERG, GERMANY
Exhibit 27
Filed 5 Dec 45

TC 73

REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

937165

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

CONCERNING

POLISH - GERMAN

AND

POLISH - SOVIET RELATIONS

1933-1939

THE

POLISH WHITE BOOK

Published
by Authority of the Polish Government
by
ROY - PUBLISHERS
New York

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I stated that owing to the excitement this question was again causing, the only way out would be through *eine offene aussprache*,[1] and that was why M. Lipski had been so outspoken.

The German Ambassador was very pleased with this conversation, and already saw a reaction to it. Germany had been under the influence of false information. He also emphasized that in such a question the Government was resolved to act only in accordance with the general principles underlying its policy towards Poland.

No. 48 GB-34

MINUTE *of M. Beck's conversation with Chancellor Hitler*
Berchtesgaden, January 5, 1939.

THE conversation took place in the presence of M. von Ribbentrop, M. von Moltke, M. Lipski and Count Michal Lubieński.

The Chancellor began by asking M. Beck whether he had any special questions to ask, as he was quite ready to be at his service with any explanations. In replying, M. Beck mentioned the Danzig situation and the Danube problem.

The Chancellor explained at length how the arbitration at Vienna had come about, laying the blame on the Hungarian Government's tactics for Budapest's failure to give effect to the postulate regarding Carpathian Ruthenia.

The Chancellor pointed out that in regard to Poland he always and invariably tried to follow the policy initiated by the Declaration of 1934. In his opinion the community of interests between Germany and Poland, so far as Russia was concerned, was complete. For the Reich, Russia, whether Tsarist or Bolshevist, was equally dangerous. The latter was perhaps a greater danger because of Communist propaganda, but the former was more dangerous in the military and even more the imperialistic sense. For these reasons, a strong Poland was an absolute necessity for Germany. At this point the Chancellor remarked that every Polish division engaged against Russia was a corresponding saving of a German division.

The Chancellor further declared that he was interested in the Ukraine from the economic viewpoint, but he had no interest in it politically.

The Chancellor then discussed the Danzig question, and emphasized that, as it was a German city, sooner or later it must return to the Reich. He stated that, in his opinion, by way of mutual agreement it would be possible to find some way out and achieve a form of guarantee to the legitimate interests of both Poland and Germany. If an agreement was reached on this question, all difficulties between the two States could quite definitely be settled and cleared out of the way. He emphasized that he was ready in that case to give an assurance, similar to that which he had given France with respect to Alsace and

[1]Frank speaking.

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Lorraine, and to Italy with respect to the Brenner. Finally, he drew attention, without stressing the matter, to the necessity for greater freedom of communication between Germany and East Prussia.

M. Beck replied that the Danzig question was a very difficult problem. He added that in the Chancellor's suggestion he did not see any equivalent for Poland, and that the whole of Polish opinion, and not only people thinking politically but the widest spheres of Polish society, were particularly sensitive on this matter.

In answer to this the Chancellor stated that to solve this problem it would be necessary to try to find something quite new, some new form, for which he used the term *"Körperschaft,"* which on the one hand would safeguard the interests of the German population, and on the other the Polish interests. In addition, the Chancellor declared that the Minister could be quite at ease, there would be no *faits accomplis* in Danzig and nothing would be done to render difficult the situation of the Polish Government.

No. 49

GB-35

EXTRACT *from Minute of M. Beck's conversation with M. von Ribbentrop*

Munich, January 6, 1939.

M. BECK asked M. von Ribbentrop to inform the Chancellor that whereas previously, after all his conversations and contacts with German statesmen, he had been feeling optimistic, to-day for the first time he was in a pessimistic mood. Particularly in regard to the Danzig question, as it had been raised by the Chancellor, he saw no possibility whatever of agreement.

In answer M. von Ribbentrop once more emphasized that Germany was not seeking any violent solution. The basis of their policy towards Poland was still a desire for the further building up of friendly relations. It was necessary to seek such a method of clearing away the difficulties as would respect the rights and interests of the two parties concerned.

No. 50

M. VON RIBBENTROP'S *Speech at the Banquet given in his honour by M. Beck*

Warsaw, January 25, 1939.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In my own and my wife's name I ask you to accept our sincerest thanks for your friendly words of greeting. I am honoured and pleased by the fact that, in return for a visit you made some time ago to the German Government, I can now stay in your beautiful capital as a guest of the Polish Government. The Polish Government have given me and my wife a reception which once more testifies to the proverbial Polish hospitality.

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